

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 907

By Tracy

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Richard Thomas on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of employment; and

WHEREAS, Richard Thomas is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for thirty-one years with Bridgestone Americas, and he will soon be taking a much deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, following graduation from Middle Tennessee State University in 1967, Mr. Thomas served the Smyrna School District as a social studies teacher and athletic coach for nine years; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, Richard Thomas began working at the Bridgestone Americas plant in La Vergne; during his exemplary tenure, he filled many posts, including Plant and Community Relations Manager and *Network* Editor; and

WHEREAS, an important part of his community and a dedicated public servant committed to improving the lives of his fellow citizens, Mr. Thomas was honored with the Smyrna Parks and Recreation Department's Kenneth "Coon" Victory Lifetime Service Award; and

WHEREAS, following his retirement, Richard Thomas will continue this record of astute public service, as he will become the President of the Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Club of Rutherford County; and

WHEREAS, one of the finest and most selfless citizens this State has ever known, Mr. Thomas exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Richard Thomas has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Richard Thomas our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors, after thirty-one years of peerless service to Bridgestone Americas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.